

## Highlights

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- Manners

# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Paintball!

*Come out and have some fun!*

This Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we are going to play **Paintball!**

Paintball is a popular game in the U.S. People are armed with “guns” and shoot paint at their “enemies” in a wooded setting.

When: Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Meet at the Norman garage at 11:30am. We will return around 5pm.

Cost: The cost is \$20 for equipment and 200 paintballs. You may purchase equipment and 500 paintballs for \$35.

This is a carpool trip. Please sign up on the activities board by Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 4pm.

So come and play!

## Notes from the Office

- **Student Mailbox**-Don't forget to check the student mailbox in the main office from time to time. There is mail for some returning students already.

## ELI T-Shirts

Don't forget, everyone (students, teachers, and staff alike!), we are selling ELI T-Shirts for only \$10 (exact change only). To purchase yours, just see Sonja in the main office any day before 1:30pm. Get yours today!

## The Next Trip

Next weekend, we will be headed to Orlando for Universal Studios' Halloween Horror Nights! Join us for roller coasters and rides at Islands of Adventure. Also spend the night exploring scary haunted houses. Halloween Horror Nights is a popular Halloween event. Get ready to be scared!!

### WHEN:

Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at Norman garage at 1pm. We will go to Islands of Adventure from 4pm-7pm (see shows and ride roller coasters). After dinner we will go to Halloween Horror Nights. We will come back to Gainesville very late, around 2am.

## COST:

**Purchase VAN TICKETS on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am-1:30PM from Noreen in Room 318.**

FL Resident tickets (with student ID)  
**Halloween Horror Nights**  
When purchased online: \$59.99 plus tax  
When purchased in Orlando: \$69.99 plus tax

Additional ticket for **Islands of Adventure:**  
When purchased online: \$15.00  
When purchased in Orlando: \$20.00

\*To purchase tickets online, visit:  
[www.HalloweenHorrorNights.com](http://www.HalloweenHorrorNights.com)

## Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of October 2-8:

Students:  
October 5: Myongjin Cho

Staff:  
None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

## Manners and Culture

*Q: Why do Americans like fast food so much?*

A: Convenience, mostly. That, and the culture of the car that we've built our country around. It's much easier to pull through that drive-through window sometimes than it is to make the effort to fix a meal when you get home.

*Q: Why is public transportation poor in most American cities?*

A: With the exception of the very large cities in the Northeast and Upper Midwest (which for the most part have excellent transportation systems), our cities are very young. They didn't really grow to be large until after the invention of the automobile. And in some cities that had streetcars at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was actually cheaper to build roads than to maintain the streetcars at that time. So, our cities grew up around the use of the automobile, and the vast distances were easiest to cross by superhighway once that was established. Now, we are discovering the need to change the system!

*Q: Are there class distinctions in American society?*

A: Sure. They're based mainly on socioeconomic status, though, and not by birth. Money does stratify us, but we also have a very, very large middle class.

*Q: What is the meaning of the Thanksgiving Holiday?*

A: Just what the name says, basically. It's a day that we set aside to express our appreciation for all the people in our lives and all the things that we have to be thankful for. Thanksgiving is the universal family holiday in the US, as it doesn't have specific ties to any one particular religion or belief system.

*Q: Do Americans like to go shopping with friends?*

A: I would have to say that that's an individual taste question. Sure, some do, but it's likely more to depend on whether or not a person really likes to go shopping at all. Some people do, and some people don't.

## Grammar

*Q: What are the meanings of "get"? I'm confused because there seem to be so many!*

A: No doubt. This is one of those little words that serves a multitude of purposes—most of them conversational, as in, they're too informal for academic writing. "Get" has two main uses. One is in the sense of "receive or obtain", as in, "I'm getting a new car today." The other is in the sense of "become or change into", as in, "We're all getting older."

*Q: When can we place an infinitive after an adjective?*

A: There is a special case called an adjective complement. This is when the infinitive completes the idea of the adjective. Usually, these are with verbs of emotion or mental state, where the infinitive explains what's causing the state, as in, "I'm really happy to meet you," or "I'm surprised to hear that."

## Quote of the Week

I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate.

--George Burns

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